IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraphs of the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraph [1004] with the following amended paragraph:

[1004] Given the growing demand for wireless data applications, the need for very efficient wireless data communication systems has become increasingly significant. The IS-95 standard is capable of transmitting traffic data and voice data over the forward and reverse links. A method for transmitting traffic data in code channel frames of fixed size is described in detail in U.S. Patent No. 5,504,773, entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE FORMATTING OF DATA FOR TRANSMISSION", assigned to the assignee of the present invention and incorporated by reference herein. Further, a high data rate (HDR) system that provides for high rate packet data transmission in a CDMA system is described in detail in the "TIA/EIA/IS-856 – cdma2000 High Rate Packet Data Air Interface Specification" (hereinafter referred to as the HDR standard), as well as ~~in co-pending~~ U.S. Patent ~~Application Serial~~ No. 6,574,211~~08/963,386~~, entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR HIGH RATE PACKET DATA TRANSMISSION", ~~filed November 3, 1997~~ issued June 3, 2003, assigned to the assignee of the present invention and incorporated by reference herein.

Please replace paragraph [1036] with the following amended paragraph:

[1036] According to a second example embodiment, the bias α of the equalizer output is used as a parameter for calculating SINR. One example formulation for bias is given by:

$$\hat{\alpha} = \mathrm{Re}\left\{ \sum_{k,\,pilot\_symbols} \frac{\hat{y}(k)}{y(k)} \right\} * \frac{1}{Number\_of\_pilot\_symbols}$$

With respect to both of these ~~example~~ examples MSE and bias formulations, knowledge of the transmitted symbol values (i.e., the transmitted symbol value prior to corruption by wireless channel 110) is needed to calculate the parameter. Various example embodiments according to the present invention are described below for determining the transmitted symbol values for non-pilot portions of the frame, where these values are not known a priori at the receiver.